

## Smoke, Not Gas, Is Blamed for Subway Panic

Expert Defends Pyrene Fire Extinguishers, Asserting They Did Not Cause Prostration of Passengers

### Cites Hospital Records

Fire Department Has Plan to Check Accidents by Lifting Third-Rail Shoe

A flat denial of the charges that carbon tetrachloride fire extinguishers were in any way responsible for the sufferings of the 300 or more passengers who were trapped in the Lexington Avenue subway on Thursday morning was made yesterday by the head of one of the leading firms in New York handling this product.

The expert who was questioned by The Tribune on this issue refused to permit his name to be used because of his business connection with a firm which sells tetrachloride extinguishers. He is not connected with the Pyrene Company, which is specifically attacked by some city officials in this connection. Officers of the Pyrene concern yesterday maintained the silence they insisted immediately after the accident, and insisted that no statement would be forthcoming until their investigation into the fire was completed.

### Laid to Smoke Suffocation

"It is a physical impossibility for gases generated by a tetrachloride extinguisher to have affected the victims of Thursday's subway accident in the manner certain reports have said they were affected," this expert said. "The reason is very simple. The proof is in the hospital record. Chlorine gas, which might to some extent be generated in the circumstances, is much heavier than air. If there was any gas present it was on the bottom level of the subway, and in order to breathe it into their systems the escaping passengers would have had to crawl on their hands and knees along the tunnel floor. Standing, or in a semi-upright position, it was impossible that they could have inhaled gas fumes created by tetrachloride extinguishers."

"The statement was made that phosgene gas was generated. This is a chemical impossibility. Without the addition of sulphuric acid, carbon tetrachloride cannot generate phosgene gas. "The answer to the gas story is found in the hospital reports. No human being can inhale phosgene in any doseable quantities and live. No human being can inhale phosgene in any dose, and not be seriously ill as a consequence. The people who required hospital treatment, I am told were suffering entirely from the temporary effects of smoke suffocation."

"Of course, tetrachloride extinguishers generate a gas; it is the gas that smothers the fire, by withdrawing oxygen from it, but if all the tetrachloride extinguishers on a dozen subway trains were turned on the fire sufficient gas would not be generated to cause any grave suffering, because what gas did exist would cling inevitably to the lowest levels. I have walked knee deep in chlorine gas in a closed room, and suffered no ill effects. If the gas is not taken into the lungs, obviously it can do no great harm. It would take a very small section of the subway to the point where persons walking in the area would be affected."

**Claims Efficient Service**  
"Tetrachloride extinguishers are used to fight fires in electric apparatus because they are the most efficient, in fact, the only really efficient method. Until a better method is discovered, hasty conclusions reached by people who are not experts in the subject are a great deal of harm, not only to legitimate and entirely worthy business interests, but in a wider degree, because they induce a feeling of mistrust of all hand fire extinguishers using tetrachloride as a base. This would be a grave matter, since the splendid record of this type of extinguisher is sufficient evidence of its great value to the community in preventing small local outbreaks of fire from spreading with disastrous results."

"I would not brief for the Pyrene people, who are, in fact, competitors of my own organization; but I do resent the attack on tetrachloride extinguishers in such sweeping terms." Thomas J. Hayes, assistant chief of the Fire Department, is investigating the accident, and will make a report to Commissioner Drennan in which he will recommend that the trains be fitted with emergency equipment which would lift the shoes of a car in which short circuit originated, clear of the third rail, thus immediately shutting off the power.

The other investigations being conducted by the city marked time for the week end. Deputy Chief Fire Marshal John Friel said that his investigation has been delayed by the difficulty in tracing witnesses, many of whose addresses were wrongly taken in the rush and excitement of the accident. The last of the patients admitted to Bellevue suffering from the effects of the accident was discharged yesterday afternoon.

A national safety code, governing the use of fire extinguishers, is urged in a letter sent to the American Engineering Standards Committee by L. V. Coleman, director of the Safety Institute of America. Mr. Coleman says in his letter:

"There is need for a national investigation of the purpose of determining the type of extinguisher best suited for fighting fires under various conditions—above ground, under ground, in close quarters, in open air, oil fires, electrical fires and fires of other sorts." Mr. Coleman says that the proposed code should take a place beside the recently approved electrical fire code and adds that the use of fire extinguishers "involves the safety of perhaps a greater number of persons than any industrial safety code now in preparation."

### 3 Hurt as Scaffold Falls

Three men were seriously injured yesterday when a platform on which they were standing while working on the steamship Texas, at the foot of Columbia Street, Brooklyn, gave way. The men tumbled to the hold of the vessel, a distance of forty feet. They were extricated by fellow workmen and rushed to the Cumberland Street Hospital.

The injured are: Barbara Arias, twenty-seven years old, of 7 State Street, fractured skull and internal injuries; Jose Suary, twenty-five, of 10 State Street, possible fracture of the spine and internal injuries; and Benito Laro, thirty-six, of 317 Herman Street, fractured right leg and fractured right arm.

As the platform fell a small engine, also on the platform, followed them. The men were pinned beneath the

## Marconi Silently Sails Away, Avoiding Ceremony

Inventor Asks Friends to Omit Farewell Demonstration; Departs for Azores

Senator Guglielmo Marconi left the city last night on his yacht, the Elettra, unobserved and without being attended by any friends or acquaintances. Signor Marconi boarded the yacht, which has been lying off Eighty-sixth Street in North River, shortly after 7 o'clock, and by 8 p. m. the Elettra was steaming down the harbor bound for the Azores, the first stop on his return voyage to Italy.

During the three weeks that Signor Marconi spent in New York City he was tendered scores of public and private banquets, at which American men of science and radio engineers honored him as a benefactor to humanity. His departure last night was in keeping with his simple and serious manners, and it was said that he had expressed the wish that neither friends nor acquaintances should offer him any farewell demonstrations when he weighed anchor.

Through his secretary, Signor Marconi announced that he had made no special arrangements to keep in contact while at sea with American radio stations, but that he intended to send a few messages of farewell to friends when several days out. On his trip home he will devote most of his time on experiments to overcome static conditions, which is considered the greatest obstacle to radio activities.

**Robbed of \$1,650 in Street Crowd Where He Sought Safety**  
**Salesman Loses Pay Roll of His Firm to 3 Bandits, One of Whom Had Gun; Drag Him Into Crooked Alley**

William P. Stratton, of the Phillips & Van Brunt printing plant at 295 Lafayette Street, drew a payroll of \$1,650 from the Irving National Bank in the Woolworth Building and started back to the plant, before noon yesterday. As he emerged from the subway at Prince Street he decided to hurry to Lafayette Street, where traffic was heavy, and he was protected against any attack.

He was walking briskly along Lafayette Street when three men approached him. One of them poked a revolver in his ribs and pushed him into a crooked alley known as Jersey Street. The other two made a grab for the brief case he was carrying. The man with the revolver warned him that an outcry would mean death. The two started to hurry to Lafayette Street, but the brief case was toward Lafayette Street and the man with the revolver soon followed.

Before they had gone far Stratton cried "Stop thief." In the meantime some one passing in an auto told Patrolman Ryan at Prince and Lafayette streets that there was some kind of a fuss at Jersey Street. Ryan jumped on the running board of another auto and started in that direction. When he reached Jersey Street he found Stratton, who told him what had happened. The men disappeared in Mulberry Street, where they had been chased by Stratton.

Stratton, who lives at 123 Walton Street, Englewood, N. J., is employed by the firm as a salesman. It has been his custom to go to the bank each Saturday morning and draw the payroll for forty men. He has made it a habit to board a subway train at the City Hall Station and, after alighting at Prince Street, hurry to Lafayette Street, where he relied on the heavy vehicular traffic for protection.

When the three men pushed him into the alley yesterday he was dumfounded. He fought for a brief case for a few seconds, but was compelled to surrender because of the odds against him. Stratton told the police the men were apparently foreigners.

**12 Policemen Capture Two Alleged Burglars**  
**Two Sergeants Head Squad Arresting Men Accused of Sawing Way Into Store**

Two police sergeants and ten patrolmen from the Alexander Avenue station yesterday arrested two men who attempted to rob Lowe's haberdashery store, at 2721 Third Avenue, the Bronx. The men had worked for two hours sawing their way through a rear wall when neighbors told the police of their actions. The sergeants, with the ten patrolmen, hurried to the scene. Twelve strips of weather boarding had been ripped from a rear wall with a chisel when the police swooped down on the men.

The men ran into a cellar, but surrendered when a policeman fired two shots in the air. The shots aroused the entire neighborhood. The men said they were James Bianchi, twenty-one years old, of 281 East 183d Street, and Anthony Guire, twenty, of 222 East 160th Street, both of the Bronx. Guire is said by the police to have been released recently from the House of Refuge. Both were held for attempted burglary.

### Dynamite Endangers Many

Explosive Enough to Destroy City Block Discovered

Twenty-five sticks of dynamite, enough to blow up a city block, were found yesterday at 199 Avenue A in an apartment building occupied by nine families, with a total of twenty-one children.

Mrs. Mary Murphy, janitress of the building, found the dynamite wrapped in newspapers in a hallway closet on the third floor. An outer wrapping bore the address "B. Light, Miner's Mill, Pennsylvania."

Mrs. Murphy notified the East Fifth Street station, and Detective Williamson took charge of the explosive. He carried the dynamite to the police station in a pail of water.

Detectives of the Bomb Squad have begun an investigation in an effort to find who placed the dynamite where it was found.

**Shot at Wheel of Motor, Victim Is Seriously Wounded**  
Harry Sill, resident of Huntington, L. I., was shot at the head and seriously wounded while driving an automobile on the Jericho Turnpike near Huntington to Commack yesterday. He was taken to Huntington Hospital, where an operation was performed by Dr. Roger Dexter.

Sill, with a party of friends, was en route from Huntington, near Lake Grove, when he suddenly collapsed at the wheel of his car. A witness heard a report, and on examining Sill found him insensible and bleeding. The shot was fired from a patch of timber near the road. It is believed to have been accidental.

**ALL-DAY SATURDAY CLOSING**  
**DURING JULY AND AUGUST**  
HEARN inaugurated this custom in 1899 to give employees the benefit of two full days for recreation.  
Store Opens 9 to 5, July and August

# The Store That's Always Busy

The Following Large assortments and low prices in Summer Needs are kept up during the summer months The Following Items for Both Monday and Tuesday

**New Sportswear Section, Second Floor, offers, all in one place, Sports Apparel and Accessories for Women and Misses**

**July Offering of SILKS**  
**40-Inch White Charmouses**  
**1.57**  
Were \$1.95

40-Inch White Satin Crepes ..... 2.45  
40-Inch White Satin Canton Crepes ..... 3.45  
40-Inch White Canton Crepes—were \$2.95 and \$3.25... 2.64  
40-Inch White Crepe de Chines ..... 1.45—1.95—2.25—2.45—2.95  
40-Inch White Radiums—were \$1.95—2.25—2.75  
40-Inch White Fancy Check Crepe de Chines..... 2.75  
40-Inch White Georgettes—were \$1.28—1.75—2.25—2.75

**40-Inch Black Satin Charmouses**  
**1.57**  
Were \$1.95

40-Inch Canton Crepes—were \$2.95 and \$3.25... 2.64  
40-Inch Black Satin Crepes—were \$2.95 and \$3.25... 2.64  
40-Inch Black Satin Canton Crepes ..... 3.75—3.95—4.25  
40-Inch Black Crepe de Chines ..... 1.45—1.95—2.65—2.95  
36-Inch Black Creponges 2.95  
36-Inch Black Satin Silks—were \$1.25—1.45—1.75  
36-Inch Black Pongees—were \$1.25—1.45—1.75  
36-Inch Black All-Silk Shantung ..... 2.25

**40-Inch Charmouses**  
**1.57**  
Were \$1.95  
Light and dark colors.

40-Inch Canton Crepes—large assortment of colors—were \$2.95 and \$3.25... 2.64  
40-Inch Charmouse—medium and dark colors—were \$3.75—2.65  
40-Inch Satin Crepes—were \$2.45—3.45  
40-Inch Georgette Crepes—were \$1.28—1.75  
40-Inch Sport Canton Crepes—were \$3.75—2.45  
39-Inch Crepe de Chines—were \$1.45—1.95

**Silk Lace Mitts**  
These dainty reveals from grandmothers' days, that are all the rage for wear with summer frocks, come in black, white, mastic, flame, rust, platinum and champagne. 1.50

**Sporting Goods**  
**Boys' Baseball Uniforms**  
**Special 2.38**  
Professional cut—four pieces—sizes 6 to 16.  
Fly Rods—three pieces and extra tip—nickel plated—full mounted—metal reel plate—cork grip—9 ft. long—value \$2.95... 2.17  
Fishing Tackle—a complete line of fishing tackle reasonably priced.  
All Wool Bathing Suits—blue, brown with stripes and heather mixtures—were \$2.45—2.95  
Men's Suits—30 to 44... 2.95  
White Shirt with Black or Blue Trunks—sizes 36 to 42—Special 3.75  
Extra Trunks, \$1.25 and \$1.50  
Boys' Catchers' Gloves—all leather—Special 1.50  
Developing and Printing—no charge for developing when prints are ordered.

**Novelty Cloth Brassieres**  
**.68**  
Value \$1.00  
Lace trimmed top and bottom. Reinforced under arm. Sizes 36 to 46.  
Coutil Brassieres—Pekin style and figured—hook side—elastic shoulder straps—sizes 34 to 46—value .69... .50

### Women's Cotton Vests

Seconds of .35 and .39 qualities. Low neck, sleeveless, with band, bodice or crocheted tops. Regular and extra sizes, 36 to 44.

Boys' Fine Cotton Union Suits—athletic style—knee length—were made garments—size 8 to 14 years—were .97... .67  
Children's Cotton Ribbed Vests—low necks—sleeveless—sizes 2 to 14 years—seconds of .24 quality... .13

**HEARN**  
FOURTEENTH STREET  
Founded 1827  
WEST OF FIFTH AVE.

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**New Sportswear Section, Second Floor, offers, all in one place, Sports Apparel and Accessories for Women and Misses**

**Women's Extra Size Coats and Wraps**  
**25.00**  
Originally \$39.00 to \$49.00  
**Canton Crepe Wrap (illustrated). Coats of Trocotine—well tailored.**  
EXTRA SIZE DEPT.—THIRD FLOOR.

**Women's and Misses' Coats**  
A number of coats, capes and wraps of various materials, colors and styles have been reduced far below their value for clearance. In the lot are styles for utility, sports and dress wear.  
Group No. 1..... 12.50  
Were \$29.73 and \$35.00  
Group No. 2..... 25.00  
Were \$49.73  
Group No. 3..... 35.00  
Were \$65.73

**Women's Extra Size Skirts**  
**5.97**  
Were \$6.97 and \$7.97  
Two shades of grey or black mohair, in model with fancy pocket and detachable belt.  
Sizes 33 to 50 waist band.  
EXTRA SIZE DEPT.—THIRD FLOOR.

**Summer Comfortables**  
**2.84**  
Were \$3.97  
Full size comfortables with attractive floral coverings and brocaded silk insertion. White cotton filled.  
Silkoline Covered Comfortables—Chrysanthemum pattern with plain saten borders—white cotton filled—full size—were \$5.53... 2.57

**Boys' Shirts**  
**Special .85**  
Fancy stripes, also khaki. With sports collar and short sleeves. Sizes 12½ to 14 neck.  
Boys' Blouses—Collars attached or sports styles—plain colors or fancy striped madras, also khaki—sizes 8 to 15—Special .65

**Children's Rolettes**  
**Hose**  
**1.30**  
Were \$1.55  
Convenient and comfortable, of glove silk, in black, white, grey, pink and corn. Sizes 6½ to 9½.  
**Ribbons**  
**Red Ticket Lot**  
Greatly Reduced for Clearance  
Metal and Dark Brocade Ribbons—6½ to 10½ inches wide—were \$1.15 to \$7.50... .78 to 5.98  
Roman Stripe and Plaid Ribbons—were .69 to .91... .58 and .68

### White Fabrics

For Summer Wear at Special Prices.

38-Inch Embroidered Voiles—were \$1.48... 1.18  
54-Inch Organdies—were .97... .78  
36-Inch Silk and Cotton Sports Skirtings—were \$1.38... .97  
36-Inch Gabardines—were .80... .65  
54-Inch Linen Finish Fabrics—were .45... .38  
45-Inch Nainsooks—10-yard piece—were \$4.78... 4.20  
36-Inch Long Cloths—were \$2.00... 1.68

## MORNING SPECIALS

On Sale Monday & Tuesday Until 1 P. M.

To prevent dealers buying, quantities restricted. No Mail or Telephone Orders.

24 ct. Fancy Voiles..... .15  
Many neat styles and colorings—light and dark shades.  
WASH FABRICS—BASEMENT.  
70 ct. French Chiffon Voiles..... .yd. .51  
45-Inch—Leading Summer fabric. WHITE GOODS—MAIN FLOOR.

\$1.17 Oyster White Ramie Linens..... .yd. .69  
45-Inch—suitable for dresses, skirts, etc.  
TOWELING—MAIN FLOOR.

28 ct. Beach Suitings..... .18  
For women's and children's dresses—old rose, pink, tan, helio, green and various shades of blue.  
WASH FABRICS—BASEMENT.

97 ct. All Wool Challis..... .74  
Dots, buds, stripes and Paisley designs—light and dark grounds. DRESS GOODS—MAIN FLOOR.

\$1.74 Black Dress Satins..... .1.17  
Rich deep black—good wearing quality.  
SILKS—MAIN FLOOR.

38 ct. New Slip Coverings..... .26  
Extra heavy—colored or self-toned stripes.  
UPHOLSTERY—BASEMENT.

\$2.24 New Muslin Curtains..... .1.66  
Spots and figures—ruffle to match.  
CURTAINS—BASEMENT.

\$39.50 New Seamless Fringed Velvet Rugs..... 29.44  
8x12 ft.—blue, rose or tan grounds—artistic designs.  
RUGS—FOURTH FLOOR.

\$2.27 Wool Finish Plaid Blankets..... .ea. 1.68  
Size 66x90 (single blanket)—variety of colors.  
BLANKETS—BASEMENT.

Women's Fine Cotton Vests..... 22  
Seconds of 47 quality—band bodice or crocheted top—pink or white—regular and extra sizes. KNIT UNDERWEAR—MAIN FL.

Women's Double Extra Size Vests..... .27  
Seconds of 57c quality—low neck—sleeveless. KNIT UNDERWEAR—MAIN FL.

78 ct. Extra Size Muslin Gowns..... .58  
Flesh and white—hand made. EXTRA SIZE DEPT.—THIRD FL.

78 ct. Extra Size Bloomers..... .58  
Flesh and white—fine quality. EXTRA SIZE DEPT.—THIRD FL.

\$1.48 Windsor Crepe Nightdresses..... .1.06  
Flesh and white—trimmed with blue stitching. MUSLIN UNDERWEAR—2D FL.

\$3.74 & \$2.74 Tub Silk Petticoats..... .1.94  
Shadow proof—all lengths. PETTICOATS—SECOND FLOOR.

94 ct. Lawn Dressing Sacques..... .82  
Figured patterns—belted models—small round collars—sizes 36 to 40. HOUSEDRESSES—SECOND FL.

\$6.73 Women's Summer Dresses..... .4.17  
Gingham, chambray and tissue combinations—two-colored or lace inserts in blouse—bias folds on skirt—open, orchid, green, red and brown—sizes 38 to 46. DRESSES—SECOND FLOOR.

\$2.00 Extra Size Voile Blouses..... .1.37  
Round or square necks—lace and embroidery trimmed—sizes 48 to 64. BLOUSES—SECOND FLOOR.

47 ct. Collar and Cuff Sets..... .38  
Lace and eyelet. NECKWEAR—MAIN FLOOR.

**White Fabrics**  
For Summer Wear at Special Prices.

38-Inch Embroidered Voiles—were \$1.48... 1.18  
54-Inch Organdies—were .97... .78  
36-Inch Silk and Cotton Sports Skirtings—were \$1.38... .97  
36-Inch Gabardines—were .80... .65  
54-Inch Linen Finish Fabrics—were .45... .38  
45-Inch Nainsooks—10-yard piece—were \$4.78... 4.20  
36-Inch Long Cloths—were \$2.00... 1.68

**Women's Imported Fine Mercerized Lisle Hosiery**  
**.57**  
Were .75  
Full fashioned, in black, grey, tan and Russian calf. Sizes 8½ to 9½.

Children's ¾ Length Fine Mercerized Socks—seam back—assortment of colors—black, white, coffee, green, lavender, orange—sizes 9½—were .50... .37  
Men's Fine Mercerized Socks—double sole, high spliced heel—silk cloths—were .50... .37

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See Page 14 for Other Hearn Advertising